# Internet Safety …

A parent's guide into understanding cyberspace and it's hidden dangers.
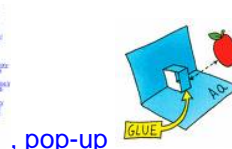
**KEYS to Safety**

Internet , cyberspace , hard drive , spyware

memory stick , pop-up , download ,

Google , Yahoo , secure web page , trojan ,

malware , key-logger , mouse , spoof websites ,

log on , web cam , wi-fi , URL ,

(.com)(.biz)(.net)(.org)(.gov) , secure server , updates ,

link , freeware , virus , spam , blogger ,

firewall , reuter , hacker

| | |
|---|---|
| Key-logger = | (programs that record everything you type in computer) |
| Wi-fi = | (network connection transmitted by an antennae) aka wireless internet |
| URL= | (universal reference link http or www.) |
| (.com)(.biz)(.net)(.org)(.gov) | business, government, network or secure sites, on a secure server |
| Link= | (software term meaning connection) |
| Keylogger= | (two types, software type either a trojan, or a thumb-drive) |
| Freeware= | (free programs / shareware used for safety) |
| E-mail= | electronic mail |

On The Internet Superhighway, there are no Police to cite violators or to help those who have concerns about suspicious activities.

Let's start by getting to know some commonly used words and symbols by computer as well as cell phone users.

<BG> Big grin
<G>     Grinning
<J>     Joking
<L>     Laughing
<S>     Smiling
<Y>     Yawning
:-)     Smiling/ Happy ☺
:-r     Sticking tongue out
:-C     Just totally unbelieving
;-o     Wow! /Surprise /Shock
;-#     My lips are sealed
;-Y     A quiet side
'-)     Wink
;-P     Tongue hanging out
;-D     Big smile
;-c     Real unhappy
:-{     Pouting
;-I     Indifferent smiley
;-x     Kiss, kiss
;-V     Shout
;-T     Keeping a straight face
;-)     Sardonic incredulity
;-"     Pursing lips
;-}     That whine was pretty good"
'-B     Drooling
;-w     Speak with forked tongue
8-]     "Wow, man"
;-(     Frowning
8-)     Smiley with glasses

These are letters only, no symbols.

| | |
|---|---|
| AAMOF……………….. | as a matter of fact |
| BBFN………………… | bye bye for now |
| B4N…………………. | bye for now |
| BFN…………………. | bye for now |
| BRB…………………. | be right back |
| BTW…………………. | by the way |
| BYKT………………... | but you knew that |
| CMIW………………... | correct me if I'm wrong |
| CU…………………….. | see you |
| CUL…………………... | see you later |
| DIKU………………….. | do I know you? |
| EOL…………………... | end of lecture |
| FAQ…………………... | frequently asked question(s) |
| FITB…………………... | fill in the blank |
| FWIW………………... | for what it's worth |
| FYI…………………….. | for your information |
| GMTA………………... | great minds think alike |
| HTH…………………... | hope this helps |
| IAC…………………... | in any case |
| IC…………………….. | I see |
| IMCO………………... | in my considered opinion |
| IMHO………………... | in my humble opinion |
| IMNSHO……………... | in my not so humble opinion |
| IMO…………………... | in my opinion |
| IOW…………………... | in other words |
| JK…………………….. | just joking |
| L8R…………………... | later |
| LOL…………………... | lots of luck / laughing out loud |
| MHOTY……………... | my hat's off to you |
| NRN…………………... | no reply necessary |
| OIC…………………... | oh, I see |
| OTOH………………... | on the other hand |
| POS…………………... | parents over shoulder |
| ROF…………………... | rolling on the floor |
| ROFL………………... | rolling on the floor laughing |
| RSN…………………... | real soon now |
| SITD…………………... | still in the dark |
| SYSOP………………... | System operator (one who runs board or chat room) |
| TIA…………………... | thanks in advance |
| TIC…………………... | tongue in cheek |
| TTYL/ TTUL…………... | talk to you later |
| TYVM………………... | thank you very much |
| TXS…………………... | thanks |
| WU…………………... | what's up? |
| WYSIWYG……………... | what you see is what you get |

# thinkb4uclick

www.wiredsafety.org

www.teenangels.org

www.missingkids.com

Social Networking Websites

www.myspace.com
www.hi5.com
www.multiply.com
www.facebook.com
www.blogger.com
http://members.freewebs.com/
www.youtube.com

List Of Social Networking Websites
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_social_networking_websites

Wiredsafety.org's Online Safety & Help Group
http://www.wiredsafety.org/internet101/blogs.html

Internet Slang
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Internet_Talk

"Leet" Speaking
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leet

Internet Meme
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Internet_Meme

**Think before you post**......unless you are prepared to attach your **MY SPACE** or **FACEBOOK** of other such social site page to your college or  job or  internship or scholarship or sports team application, etc.....Don't post it. ***THINK BEFORE YOU CLICK***.
Parents need to discuss ways to handle certain situations ahead of time.  This covers situations where children don't know if they should open up a window that popped up on their screen or if they should return an e-mail from someone they are not sure is one of their friends.  Many sexual predators stalk their victims over the internet before ever meeting them face to face or even talking to them on the phone.

**NEVER** allow children to enter sites that charge  for services.  Children can accidentally click on sites that charge to use their information or to use their services.  This can cost parents money.  Spam is unwanted junk mail (e-mail).  This spam comes through your computer from companies offering prizes and special deals or promotions.  At times messages will pop up saying that you are a winner and need to click on their site to claim your prize.  They then begin asking for personal information.  Never enter these sites.  Most are scams.

**A USER PROFILE** is information that a computer has from when you first set up your online services or that your computer keeps track of from your e-mail transmissions, web sites you visit, pages you frequent, and for how long you are on those sites, items that have been purchased, information that has been downloaded or printed.

**NEVER** fill out questionnaires, surveys or forms, enter contests or register for clubs to enter sites or to play games online.

**NEVER** open e-mail messages from people you don't know.  Be very careful opening e-mail attachments.  These are pictures, movies or video clips and sometimes have links to other web sites.

**GET CHILDREN TO ASK PERMISSION** before they play or download any online games.

**CAUTION** children about using instant messaging.  This is where you have real-time conversations on line.  Usually this is done through chat rooms.  Remember just because someone claims to be "your age" doesn't mean it couldn't be someone pretending to be someone else.

**WANT TO BUY SOMETHING ON THE INTERNET?**
Be careful if you find something you want to buy.  You have to check out some information first before clicking away giving all your personal information and credit card numbers.

**REMEMBER** that any site you visit can send programs called "cookies" down into your computer.  They can access your personal information to try and sell you something or to tell you info.
**ALWAYS** try to use some type of filtering software.  Parental controls can be used on computers through filtering devices.  This works similar to those for cable televisions.  You can also use more than one at a time and you can receive a report of your child's internet activities.  For more advanced users, it can also alert parents if the settings have been altered.
> Parents can review a "use history" or can run a "run log" of online activities.
> Parents should learn how to set up quick access for their children to access online sites which have been approved by their parents.

Children who play with computers face some of these problems in their lives:

- Social isolation        (they begin spending more time on their computers than with their family and friends.
- Become preoccupied with the Internet (games, music and on-line chat rooms).
- Lose interest in their appearance (unkempt, wear same clothes, personal hygiene suffers).
- Become moody, unwilling to leave computer, change games, try other hobbies, lose interest in other activities.
- Grades in school begin to suffer, failing classes, losing credit (no time spent on homework or studying because of time with computer and online).
-  Young adults begin to show poor work performance / attendance.
- Neglect household chores.
- Become disinterested in real life activities or with current events.
- Showing fatigue due to lack of sleep (staying on computer for long hours).
- Visible signs of depression or anxiety.
- Internet addiction which can also result in lost jobs, destroyed relationships and for some shopping binges.

Talk to your children about online purchases.

Explain to children never to click on sites where it asks them to buy items, example E-Bay or on sites such as Amazon.com.  Tell them that only adults (parents and those 18 years of age and older) should be conducting online transactions.  Always use reliable retailers.  Use your credit card never debit card (liability reasons).  Avoid public computers.  Never save your credit card numbers or other banking information on a computer.

Never send pictures of yourself.  Parents don't buy your kids a web cam (camera hook up for your computer where users can see others who also have the camera hook up).  Too many cases of child pornography are happening in homes with these devices.

PARENTS PLEASE REPORT ANY CASES INVOLVING SEX OFFENSES, CHILD PORNOGRAPHY OR CASES WHERE CHILDREN ARE BEING SOLICITED FOR SEX ACTS. PLEASE NOTIFY THE EL PASO POLICE DEPARTMENT AS SOON AS THE INCIDENT IS DISCOVERED CALL 832-4400.  DO NOT DELETE THE E-MAIL MESSAGE and please do not respond to the message.  DO NOT ATTEMPT TO COPY THE MESSAGE.  DETECTIVES WILL KNOW HOW TO RETRIEVE THE NEEDED EVIDENCE AND CAN USE INFORMATION TO BACK TRACK THE E-MAIL TO IT'S ORIGINATOR.

Remember never to give too much information out about yourself on the internet.  Do not give out your complete name, your address, work information, school information, contact phone numbers, school mascots, favorite hangouts, or times that you like to go there, passwords, finance information, or other info that can help identify you.  Hackers (those that know how to break into computer's security systems) use this information to spread viruses, commit crimes, sex crimes, id thefts, scams, on line gambling as well as use the information to harass and stalk their victims.

Ask children what they would do if…..

1. A message popped up saying that they were a winner and needed to click here to find out what they won, then asking for some information to verify their identity?
2. Someone asked your child what their name was and how old they were?
3. Someone wanted to meet you in person?
4. They accidentally clicked on a site that their parents told them not to go in?
5. Something they clicked on downloaded something that made their computer start doing strange things?
6. Someone sent an inappropriate photograph through the e-mail?
7. Someone starting saying inappropriate things to your child?
8. Someone started sending threats over the internet (called cyber-bullying)?
9. Someone wanted your child to e-mail a photo of them?
10. Someone wanted to start a sexual relationship with your child?
11. Someone told your child to disobey their parents and to start having secrets with them?